



ALABAMA BOARD OF MASSAGE THERAPY

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MINUTES Board Meeting

June 16, 2022

The Alabama Board of Massage Therapy met on Thursday, June 16, 2022 at the Board Office located at 2777 Zelda Road, Montgomery, Alabama. The following Board members attended: Ms. Stephanie Dobbins (Board Chair), Ms. Stefanie Herfurth (Board Vice Chair), Mr. Darren Beams (member), Ms. Denise Dale (member), Ms. Mary Rogers (member) and Mr. Foad Araiinejad (member). Board member absent was Ms. Gina Lee. Others present were Mr. Keith Warren (Executive Director), Mr. Matt Bledsoe (Board Legal Counsel), Mr. Mike James (Investigator) and Mr. Dennis Trammell (Investigator), Ms. Karen Harlow (Legal Assistant), Ms. Camby Garner (Licensing Specialist) and Ms. Renee' Reames (recording secretary). Guest present was Ms. Melissa Moore. Ms. Dobbins, Board Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 12:36 p.m. Mr. Warren called Board roll and reported that a quorum was present to conduct Board business.

Public notice of this regularly scheduled meeting was submitted to the Secretary of State www.sos.alabama.gov in accordance with the requirements of the Alabama Open Meetings Act and published on the Board's web site at www.almtbd.alabama.gov.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chairperson Dobbins presented a copy of the February 25, 2022 regular Board meeting minutes for the Board's approval. A copy of the minutes was provided to the Board members prior to the meeting for their review. Ms. Dale made a motion to approve the February minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Ms. Herfurth and unanimously approved by the Board (minutes available for viewing in the Board's Official Book of Minutes).

SCHOOL APPLICATION

Mr. Warren introduced Ms. Melissa Moore, who had submitted a massage therapy school application for the Board's consideration, aka Southeast Alabama Massage School. The Board discussed the curriculum requirements, school calendar for attendance, clinical hours, staffing, established policies for refunds, absenteeism, etc. The Board explained the significance in having a detailed written plan to address these matters and invited Ms. Moore to the next Board meeting when the written plans were available to present to the Board.

Mr. Warren presented the Executive Director Report to include the financial activities for the period ending May 31, 2022 (reports on file in the Board's Official Book of Minutes). Mr. Warren reported on the number of inspections completed in FY 2021 and 2022 and reviewed the status of complaints for this same reporting period.

Mr. Beams made a motion to accept the Financial Report as presented. The motion was seconded by Ms. Dale and unanimously approved by the Board.

LEGAL COUNSEL REPORT

Mr. Bledsoe presented a consent agreement concerning Case 2021-027BR for the Board's approval. Mr. Dale made the motion to approve the consent agreement as present which included a \$500 fine for

advertising violations. The motion was seconded by Mr. Araiinejad and unanimously approved by the Board.

PROPOSED RULES

Mr. Warren presented for the Board's approval the proposed amended rule, 532-X-3-.04 Establishment License. He recommended that the rule be approved as an emergency rule and adopted as a regular rule for public comments. Changes to the rule were discussed, e.g., minimum amount of professional and general liability insurance coverage, reinspection of establishments if failed inspection, and initial inspection and inspection fee of an establishment prior to operating should the owner reside outside the State. Ms. Dale made the motion that amended Rule 532-X-2-.04 be approved as an emergency rule and a regular rule. The motion was seconded by Ms. Herfurth and unanimously approved by the Board.

Mr. Warren also presented for the Board's approval the proposed amended rule 532-X-3-.06 Fee Schedule. He recommended that the previous fees be repealed and presented changes in the fee amounts. Mr. Beams made the motion to repeal the earlier fees and approve the revision as presented in rule 532-X-3-.06 and the rule approved as an emergency rule and a regular rule. The motion was seconded by Ms. Herfurth and unanimously approved by the Board.

The Board discussed reviewing the Board's rules based on the changes in the Board's statute in Act 2022-408. Chairman Dobbins established a Rules Committee consisting of Ms. Dale (Board member), Ms. Dobbins (Board Chairperson), Ms. Kristi Duncan (ex-officio member), Mr. Bledsoe (Board Legal Counsel) and Mr. Warren (Executive Director).

SUNSET COMMITTEE MEETING

The Board discussed the Sunset Committee meeting that was held prior to the Board meeting. The Board also discussed the proposed Interstate Compact and Mr. Warren explained the Compact that would offer LMTs a new licensure process for providing services in other states. He indicated that this was a very lengthy process of establishing a Compact because a minimum number of states must join for the Compact to become effective. He indicated that he would keep the Board informed of further developments.

OTHER BUSINESS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

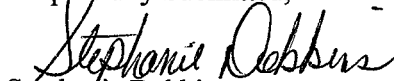
The Board discussed the outstanding consent agreements and disciplinary fines. Mr. Warren reported that the disciplinary actions approved by the Board were reported to a national database listing imposed sanctions and violations.

Chairperson Dobbins reported that the next meeting of the Board was scheduled August 5, 2022. Mr. Warren reported that this meeting was necessary to review and approve the final rules that were approved earlier in the meeting.

Mr. Araiinejad reported that Dr. Debra Persinger, Executive Director of the Federation of State Massage Therapy Board, was making plans to attend the Board's next meeting in August.

There being no further business, Mr. Beams made the motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Araiinejad and unanimously approved by the Board. Chairperson Dobbins adjourned the meeting at 1:36 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,


Stephanie Dobbins
Board Chair

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a series of loops and a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Keith E. Warren
Executive Director

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